

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-6 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled without prejudice, Claim 3 has been amended, and Claim 6 has been added by the present amendment without adding new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Cavallaro et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,008,681, herein "Cavallaro"); Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Rothe (U.S. Patent No. 6,304,219); and Claims 3-5 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

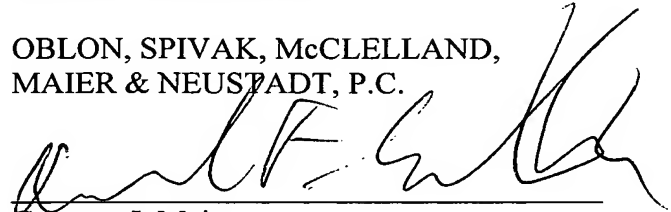
Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In view of this indication, rejected Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled and Claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the features of its alternative base Claim 1 as suggested in the outstanding Office Action. Thus, it is believed that Claims 3-5 are in condition for allowance.

New Claim 6 has been added to present the subject matter of Claim 2, now cancelled. New Claim 6 depends from independent Claim 3. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claim 6 is also allowable.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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